

**TOWN OF SALEM  
REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING-TOWN BOARD  
OCTOBER 09, 2019**

**Present:** Supervisor Evera Sue Clary; Town Council: Harold Gilchrest; Marcus Blanck; Bruce Ferguson; Howard Law; Town Clerk-Pat Gilchrist; Clerk to Supervisor-Kathy Chambers

**Others Present:** Travis Keys-Highway & Water; Eric Rogers-Water & H'Way; Maurice Patrick-Planning Bd.; Kimberly Erbe-Planning Bd. Clerk & Library; Herb Perkins-LL & P & Courthouse; Janice Quartararo-Court-house; Judy Flagg-Historian & Records Mg 'mt.; Al Cormier-Deputy Historian/Hist. Pres./Records Mg 'mt.; Joe Wever-Salem Fire Dep't.

**Absent:** Bob Graham-Salem Fire Chief; Wendy Bordwell-Georgi; Rebecca Brown-Library & Water Clerk; DCO-Nancy Quell

**Public Present:** Bob Jarvis; Brenda J. Levey; Margaret Keyes; Cathy McKeighan; Kim St. Onge Gariepy; David Higby; Nancy Higby; Cynthia Weinrich; Cait Johnston- Journal Press

**6:00 p.m.-**Review Warrants #10 & Abstract #10 of 2019 for payment

**7:00 p.m.-**Regular monthly meeting called to order by Supervisor E. Sue Clary, followed by Pledge of Allegiance

**Approval of Minutes-Motion made by** Councilman Marcus Blanck, seconded by Councilman Howard Law, to approve monthly meeting minutes from September 11, 2019; passed unanimously 5-0 by the following Board members: Marcus Blanck; Howard Law; Bruce Ferguson; Harold Gilchrest; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary

**Motion made by** Councilman Marcus Blanck, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, to approve 2<sup>nd</sup> budget workshop meeting minutes from September 25, 2019; passed unanimously 5-0 by the following Board members: Marcus Blanck; Harold Gilchrest; Bruce Ferguson; Howard Law; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary

**Motion made by** Councilman Marcus Blanck, seconded by Councilman Howard Law, to approve 3<sup>rd</sup> budget workshop meeting minutes from October 02, 2019; passed 4-0 by the following Board members: Councilman Marcus Blanck; Howard Law; Bruce Ferguson; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary (Councilman Gilchrest absent)

**Approval of Warrants #10 & Abstract #10 for Payment: Motion made by** Councilman Howard Law, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, to sign/approve **Warrants #10 & Abstract #10 of 2019** as presented for payment; passed unanimously 5-0 by the following Board members: Howard Law; Harold Gilchrest; Marcus Blanck; Bruce Ferguson; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary

**Water Dep't.** -Eric Rogers reported there was a NYS Dep't. of Health inspection at the water barn; the inspection went well. State liked what had been done, keep doing the same w/maintenance as it is done now. There are currently 315 meters in service; regular upkeep/maintenance performed; flushing dead-end hydrants to keep water moving; did a handful for 'Dig Safe' mark outs; all fire hydrants are in service. Travis & Eric went to water school 10/01/2019 in Lake Luzerne; the class was a Groundwater Treatment Workshop & was a good class. Eric signed up for a free water school in Ballston Spa in December; the class is Line Location & Leak Detection. Monthly water sample done, required by D.O.H.; met the bacteriological requirements for a public water supply as set forth in sub-part 5-1.5 of the State Sanitary Code, under Public Health Law 225. Eye wash & fire extinguisher checks done; working on updating some curb stop maps. Office door still needs replacing @ the Water Barn. Had been working on up-dating DEC water withdrawal permit (from Village to Town of Salem) & was e-mailed a copy of the new permit. Should be all set w/this now. Maximum permitted water (gpd) is 220,320 gallons. E-mailed DOH to see if Salem could get a free grant to do mapping of the Water Dep't. There is money out there to do "diamond maps"; this will use GPS to mark mains/valves/curb boxes. There are also other things that can be done with the mapping if the grant is approved. Will keep board abreast as more information comes in. This could also work for the Highway Dep't., too. Fall hydrant flushing will begin Monday, October 14-Friday, 18, 2019, starting sometime between 4-6 a.m.

**Fire Department**-Joe Wever reported in place of Chief Graham. **August Report**-11 calls for the month: 6-Salem (3-trees/lines down; 1-EMS assist; 1-alarm activation; 1-MVA); 2-Jackson (1-Water rescue call;

1-alarm activation); Mutual Aid: 1-Hebron (MVA); 2-Shushan (1-water rescue call; 1-MVA)

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**Training**-Air packs; hydraulic tools, rescue jacks; chain saws; multi-gal meter & driver training; water rescue

**Meetings**-Fire Dep't. held monthly mtg. for August; Fire Advisory Board mtg.; Training center mtg.

**Total Hours for Year**-4,692; report will be filed.

**September Report**-10 calls for month: 7-Salem (2-vehicle fires; 1-landing zone; 1-alarm activation; 1-carbon monoxide; 1-trees down; 1-EMS lift assist; 3-Jackson (alarm activations)

**Training**-Monthly ladder, multi-gas, air packs. Air bags; hydraulic tools/saws; vehicle extrication; quarterly SCBA training

**OSHA Mandates**-Yearly servicing of trucks; NYSI; pump test

**Fund-raising**-Bike ride; Sunday breakfast (10/13/19) from 7-11 a.m. w/craft fair from 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Benefit chicken bar-b-que 10/19/2019

**Total Hours**-4,912; report will be filed

**Old Brick Firehouse**-Mr. Wever also informed the board the Salem Fire Dep't. **did not** own the old brick firehouse by Adam Matthews garage as they thought they did; they have been paying insurance on the bldg., which they are going to cancel.

There is an old recorded deed from John Williams to the Village of Salem, but this was not searched nor was it transferred upon dissolution. The deed states that if the building ceases to be used as a firehouse to house trucks, the property reverts back to the heirs of Gen. John Williams. Since the property was not transferred from the Village to the Town upon dissolution, was not listed on any dissolution lists as being Village owned, and there is no longer a Village--who owns the building???

**Sewer Committee**-Cathy McKeighan, elected Secretary, provided minutes from the 09/24/2019 meeting. Bruce Ferguson was elected Chairman; those present at this mtg. were: Bruce, Cathy, Dr. Glover (Salem School), Nancy Higby, Herb Perkins, Ted Wilson. Laberge final report w/billing was requested from Supervisor Clary by 10/01/2019, not yet rec'd. Some questions asked by committee members: Would any engineering company be able to use the Laberge feasibility study--the answer is yes. Was there a formal signed contract w/Laberge--yes.

How can the public be more informed on what is happening w/the Committee? Newspapers; front porch forum on the internet; go door to door to inform residents; have residents attend sewer committee meetings, which are all open to the public. Is the study feasible or not for the Town of Salem? Does the Town Board even want to proceed w/installation of a sewer for the Town in the former area of the Village? Go with the system for the whole former Village area or do it in phases? This needs to be studied more; some on the committee felt it should proceed in phases, others felt it should be done all at once and have it completed. How will Salem School benefit from a town system? Cost to the school to put in a system of their own would be approximately \$300-\$400,000 & would not be a cost savings to the School. Is a bonding attorney necessary? Would need an attorney for district formation. Is there a line item in the 2020 budget for the sewer system--would request \$3,000 be added? Grants should also be sought for the system. Is the flood plain study completed for the Town? This is vital for the Committee to move forward with the system. It was also brought up that the sewer system would benefit the town where the creek flows the fastest & widest to keep sewer back-ups away from town. If there should be a back-up, residents would not have to worry about systems backing up into homes & businesses. **Next Meeting**-will be held 10/22/2019 @ 7 p.m. in the Town Office

Councilman Ferguson reported that he had called Laberge re the final report & was told it was being worked on but wasn't completed yet. Would be forthcoming soon. Are flood maps completed yet? Only a draft map at current time. Alton Knapp should be asked to come to a meeting. Committee member Nancy Higby asked if there was any sense meeting on 10/22/2019 if no final report is available. Councilman Ferguson's response was that the meeting had already been advertised in the newspaper & hopefully the report would be here by then.

**Historian**-Judy Flagg reported that there was a history fair in Hartford on 09/27; about 250 people attended. The power point presentation of the repair of Cleo's nose generated a lot of interest! October 27<sup>th</sup> will mark the

30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of the Georgi on the Battenkill & opening of the exhibit "Glory Days: An Era of Industry". The exhibit portrays the history of industry in our area through early photographs, art & material objects.

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**Minutes**

Also, Bill Cotrofeld of Capital Region Gem & Mineral Club will present NYS gems to accompany the permanent Georgi collection samples. 1:00 p.m.-Early Admission for Georgi Members w/wine & cheese reception; 2:00 p.m. for the general public, w/presentation by Judy & Elizabeth Cockey @ 2:30 p.m.

Grant rec'd. from Humanities, NY to write a book, which is being worked on.

Judy & Al Cormier will be attending a Disaster Plan for Records Management Workshop on October 23<sup>rd</sup>, in Fonda.

Sunday, 11/10/ @ Courthouse-Lloyd Stewart will be doing a presentation on his ancestors; he has relatives @ Evergreen Cemetery, also. He has a book entitled, **The Mysterious Black Migration 1810-1820.**

**Historical Markers for T/O/S**-Judy Flagg handed out a sheet showing the current markers that are in place in the Town of Salem & a list of proposed sites for the blue/gold markers. NYS no longer funds this now; the William Pomeroy Foundations funds now. The proposed sites are: Gen. John Williams site (Salem School-1939); Shushan Covered Bridge; Williams grist Mill 1800-Manhattan Shirt Co 1890. (Park Place); Evergreen Cemetery 1869; Moravian Cemetery & Moravian Church 1832 (Camden Valley Rd.); Home of Philip Embury, father of Methodism in America (Roberson Rd.); Proudfit Bldg. 1890, Bancroft Library, former Village offices (partially burned in 1976), Fairchild Bldg. & Salem House also burned on the same site; Audubon Home 1810-home of John James Audubon's grand-daughters; Hamilton McCollister home, original house 1770; larger house 1785

(Hanks-Keys property, Hanks Rd.)

**Historic District Commission Mtg.**-will be held on Monday, 10/21, in the Archive Room of the Courthouse.

**Courthouse**-Janice reported that the new windows were in; her office will be done tomorrow, 10/10/2019; SAW created the weight system for the windows. Building was originally started in June of 1869, completed in December, 1869. Great weather for the Beer n Brats festival; well attended. November 12<sup>th</sup> will be the annual meeting w/pot luck supper beginning @ 6 p.m., meeting to begin @ 7 p.m.

**Pie Crust Camp**-Thursday, 10/24, 6-8 p.m. in the Battenkill Kitchen, w/chef Mari Kelley Taylor @ a cost of \$40.

**Christmas in November**-Holiday Sale, hosted by Shoppe off Broadway, on Saturday, 11/16, from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. in Great Hall. All proceeds go back to Salem Community in form of grants/scholarships.

**Art n Craft Xmas Sale**-Saturday, 12/07, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Holiday art n craft sale w/over 25 vendors.

**Norse/Viking Cooking Class**-Wednesday, 12/11, 6 p.m. Battenkill Kitchen. Classes are \$35.

**150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration**-Saturday, 12/14-Victorian themed Party w/torch-light parade

**Planning Board**-Moe Patrick reported that there will be a Public Hearing on Thursday, 10/24, for a USDA meat processing plant to be built on County Route 64. Above ground pool-no regulations in zoning covering the same, only County Code Enforcement.

**Library**-Kim Erbe reported the bids had been opened/approved on HVAC system, new roof w/insulation & the new windows. Second grant process for handicapped accessibility has gone out.

**Georgi**-Wendy Bordwell absent; Councilman Ferguson reported that Express Pay is working well. Last wedding is Saturday, 10/12/2019. Thank-you to Highway Sup't. Travis Keys & his crew for the fill. Study of the museum needs to be done for insulation, energy efficiency, windows, etc. Councilman Gilchrest has contacted someone but not heard anything back yet. NYSE & G does energy audits. Water has to be turned off every year as it is too close to the surface & will freeze. The virtual tour through Wedding Wire on website looks great.

There are events on 12/05 & 12/07.

**DCO**-Report for Sep't. provide--indicates a phone conversation w/a Carol whose dog was attacked while walking at SAW (said she was allowed to be there); both dogs were off leash. DCO Nancy Quell informed her

that it was a civil matter. Report will be filed.

**Lunch, Learn n Play/Swim Program**-Herb Perkins, volunteer director of the program, gave a hand-out explaining that LLP is an educational program. Hand-out explained various programs for all the grades attending, what new programs were added for what age groups, etc. Current teachers are involved as well as some that are already retired. Applied for a grant that might allow for Matt Parker to do a physical education program. A cost analysis break-down was handed out, also.

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**Swim Program for Hebron Camp**-Only a swim program--not a day camp!! Many parents from Salem have already signed their children up for lessons at Hebron Camp for 2020; parents pay cost of lessons. Scholarship funds will be made available for children whose parents cannot afford lessons or the bus. Hebron Camp has created two morning slots to accommodate Salem kids who went to Lake Lauderdale this year (16), allowing the kids to return to Salem 11:30 or so in time for lunch at the Courthouse for the L, L P program. Cost of bus & driver for trips to & from Hebron Camp for 25 days = \$1,540; salaries for two (2) counselors from 8 a.m.-noon for 25 days = \$2,360; Purchase tent & other supplies for use at Hebron Camp = \$500 +; total cost-about \$4,400

The question was asked if the camp would hurt those giving private lessons, trying to earn money over the summer for college, etc. Herb didn't think so, as they had been giving private lessons in prior years anyway.

No

pre-registered kids from Salem can ride the bus--transportation to & from Hebron Camp must be provided for those kids. Only the 16 kids who attended Lake Lauderdale this past summer will be allowed to ride the bus.

**Highway Dep't.**-Travis Keys reported the drain by fuel tanks on West Broadway/Route 30 will need to be moved; a homeowner needs to put in a new leach field. Town of Jackson has passed a Local Law, restricting parking on the Jackson side of Eagleville Bridge. Parking ordinance provided from Town of Fort Ann; needs reviewing for a later mtg. Culverts in blacktops have all been capped; shoulders have been cut on a lot of the blacktops (will be ditching these roads as time permits). Piles of dirt will be leveled off & smoothed out to look nicer. Finished on drain tile on Butcher Lane, ditching & a light coat of gravel was put down. Currently installing drain tile on Juniper Swamp Rd. (the hill); if weather permits, it will get a coat of gravel & be finished next spring. Will begin cleaning ditches of leaves on dirt road, hopefully in the next week or so. The red ribbons hanging on the sides of the road are marking culvert--trying some paint to mark culverts on the black tops. Currently working w/Washington County for some storm drains in the former Village & a spot on Butcher Lane. Our labor & equipment will be our share of the match (Upper Hudson River Watershed Revitalization Plan). Reports handed out showing 2019 paving that was done, as well as 2019 culverts. Monthly report provided from Sep't. 1-Sep't. 30 provided; all reports will be filed.

#### **Resolution #82-Plowing, sanding, or removal of snow/ice on NYS roads during winter season 2019-2020-**

**Motion made by** Councilman Harold Gilchrest, seconded by Councilman Howard Law, instructing Superintendent of Highways Travis Keys to execute an Agreement with the Superintendent of Public Works of the County of Washington for plowing, sanding, and removal of snow/ice on State roads during the winter season of 2019-2010 at the hourly rates fixed by the NYS Comptroller in his supervision of municipal accounts for rental or hiring of such machinery, tools, or equipment by the Town of Salem. The Town of Salem must receive approval from NYSDOT before doing any snow removal and must provide the Superintendent of Public Works of the County of Washington proof of insurance, for working in the right-of-way, on all vehicles involved in their State snow and ice removal operations. **Roll Call Vote:** Councilman Harold Gilchrest-Yes; Councilman Howard Law- Yes; Councilman Marcus Blanck-Yes; Councilman Bruce Ferguson-Yes; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary-Yes; passed unanimously 5-0

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Neil Adams Reappointment to BAR**-Letter rec'd. from Laura Chadwick, Real Property Tax Services, advising that Neil's term on the BAR expires on 09/30/2019; the board either needs to reappoint him or appoint someone else. He will be required to attend a training session in the Spring of 2020. Supervisor Clary contacted Neil; he

would like to serve again.

**Resolution #83-Motion made by Councilman Marcus Blanck**, seconded by Councilman Howard Law, to re-appoint Neil Adams to the Board of Assessment Review for a five-year term, beginning 10/01/2019-09/30/2024;

passed unanimously 5-0 by the following Board members: Marcus Blanck; Howard Law; Bruce Ferguson; Harold Gilchrest; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary

**Town Electric Contract Renewal**-Phone call rec'd. from Nancy Hudson of Consumer Energy Solutions (NYSE&G) regarding the eight (8) account that TOS has through Engie, expiring on 12/3/2019. She has found another supplier, Liberty Power, at a rate of \$0.0689/kwh, suggesting that we renew now for a 36-month term. Rec'd. another phone call & an e-mail from Kira Smith, Sr. Energy Consultant w/Consumer Energy Solutions;

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she reached out to Engie and they will honor the same rate of \$0.0689/kwh for a 36-month term if we sign the contract now. Town will not pay higher rate if cost goes up, but will get a reduced rate if price drops.

**Resolution #84-Motion made by Councilman Bruce Ferguson**, seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, instructing Supervisor Clary to execute the 36-month Energy Agreement w/Engie at a fixed price of \$0.0689/kwh, beginning 01/01/2020, ending 12/31/2022. Passed unanimously 5-0 by the following Board members: Bruce Ferguson; Harold Gilchrest; Marcus Blanck; Howard Law; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary

**2020 NYMIR Insurance Contract-Resolution #85-Motion made by Councilman Howard Law**; seconded by Councilman Harold Gilchrest, to accept the 2020 NYMIR Insurance Contract @ a cost of \$32,712.42 for the year, instructing Supervisor Evera Sue Clary to execute the same (2019's cost was \$34,585.19); passed unanimously 5-0 by the following Board members: Howard Law; Harold Gilchrest; Bruce Ferguson; Marcus Blanck; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary

**Resolution #86-Motion made by Councilman Marcus Blanck**, seconded by Councilman Howard Law, for a Budget Increase to reflect money received from CHIPS as follows:

DA3501 CHIPS		\$ 70,056.28
DA5142.4 Snow Removal	\$ 26,000.00	
DA5130.4 Machinery	\$ 40,000.00	
DA9060.8 Health Ins.	\$ 4,056.28	

Passed unanimously 5-0 by the following Board members: Marcus Blanck; Howard Law; Harold Gilchrest; Bruce Ferguson; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Woody Hill Water Hook-in**-On going; Woody Hill has made no final decision

**Former Village Park Lighting**-Energy efficient bulbs will be replaced in front seven (7) lights by Jim Carrolan.

**Landfill Testing**-Supervisor Clary called Phoenix re the once-a-year landfill testing; everything looks good. Cannot to testing once every three (3) years at this time.

**Veteran's Park**-Meg Asche would like to do something in this park for the Town, working w/others.

**Flood Mitigation-Tina Fleming**-Where does her claim stand w/Washington County? She wants the Town to apply to FEMA to either have her house be raised or bought out.

**CORRESPONDENCE**-None

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Brenda Levey** asked by the Town needed the number for the Salem Youth Sports kids? Supervisor Clary responded that she provides it to Washington County Youth Bureau, who then sends money to the Town for all youth served in Salem.

**2020 Tentative Budget Presented** for review. Supervisor Clary reported that the amount could not go over \$990,882.

**A5132.4-Garage-Contractual**-Down from \$30,000 to \$27,500

**DA5130.2-Machinery-New Equipment**-Down from \$140,000 to \$90,000

**DA5142.11-Snow Removal-Personal Svcs. (O.T.)**-Down from \$25,000 to \$20,000

**DA5142.4-Snow Removal-Contractual**-Down from \$110,000 to \$100,000

Travis made all of the above suggestions.

**Water Revenues**-Need to be looked at; Revenues @ \$188,878; Appropriations @ \$219,062-a short-fall of \$30,184

**A7310.4-Youth Programs**-Board felt this could go down from \$5,000 to \$2,600; Supervisor disagrees.

Review 2020 Budget further for the 10/23/2019 meeting; getting late.

**Motion to Adjourn**-**Motion made by** Councilman Harold Gilcrest, seconded by Councilman Marcus Blanck, to adjourn the regular monthly meeting of the Salem Town Board; passed unanimously 5-0 by the following Board members: Harold Gilcrest; Marcus Blanck; Howard Law; Bruce Ferguson; Supervisor Evera Sue Clary;

meeting adjourned @ 10:30 p.m.

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**Next Budget Workshop Meeting for 2020**- will be held on October 23, 2019, @ 6:00 p.m. in the Salem Town Office, hopefully to adopt the Tentative Budget; any & all other business that may come before the Board on that night may also be discussed.

**Regular Monthly Meeting**-The next regular monthly meeting of the Salem Town Board will be November 14, 2019, at the Town Office, review of Warrants #11 & Abstract #11 for payment will begin @ 6:00 p.m., regular meeting will be called to order @ 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Patricia A. Gilchrist-Town Clerk  
Town of Salem